

The Excerpts from "Records of the Investigation Committee Meeting of Privy Council in re: Prolongation of Anti-Comintern Pact."

PP 1-7 inclusive; PP 11, 14, 15

1. Investigation Committee Meeting, about the conclusion of protocol on the prolongation of Anti-Comintern Pact among Japan, Germany, Italy, Hungary, Manchukuo, and Spain, and about the interchange of secret documents between Japan and Germany concerning the abrogation of the secret attached protocol of above pact.

Held on November 21st (Friday), 1941, in the Privy Council Office.

Attendants: President HARA

2. Vice President SUZUKI

Chairman of the Committee ISHII,  
Councillor

Members of the Committee:

ARIMA, Councillor  
ISHIZUKA, Councillor  
KINAMI, Councillor  
NARA, Councillor  
FUTAKAMI, Councillor  
OBARA, Councillor  
TAKEKOSHI, Councillor  
IZAWA, Councillor

3.

Ministers of State Affairs:

TOJO, Prime Minister, Minister of  
Home Affairs and War Minister  
IWAHARA, Minister of Justice  
TOGO, Minister of Foreign Affairs  
and concurrently of Overseas  
Affairs ( )

Explainers:

MORIYAMA, Directory-General of the  
Legislative Bureau  
SATO, Councillor of the Legis-  
lative Bureau  
MIYAUCHI, Councillor of the  
Legislative Bureau  
4. MATSUMOTO, Director of the Bureau  
of Treaties ( ) in the Depart-  
ment of Foreign Affairs.  
SAKAMOTO, Director of the Bureau  
of European and ( ) Asiatic  
Affairs in the Department of  
Foreign Affairs  
NISHIMURA, Chief of the Second  
Section of the Bureau of Treaties  
in the Department of Foreign Affairs  
NEITCHI, Chief of the Third Section  
of the Bureau of East Asiatic  
Affairs ( ) in the Department  
of Foreign Affairs  
NARITA, Chief of the First Section  
of the Bureau of European and

Asiatic Affairs in the Department  
of Foreign Affairs  
YOZANO, Chief of the Second Section  
of the Bureau of European and  
Asiatic Affairs in the Department  
of Foreign Affairs  
IDE, Secretary of the Department  
of Foreign Affairs  
IMAMATSU, Director of National Police  
Bureau in the Department of Home  
Affairs  
NAGANO, Chief of the Public Order  
Section of National Police Bureau  
in the Department of Home Affairs  
INEDA, Director of the Criminal  
Bureau in the Ministry of Justice

5.

HORIE, Chief Secretary  
MOROHASHI, Secretary  
TAKATSUJI, Secretary

(Meeting opens at 1.35 P.M.)

Chairman of the Committee ISHII declares the opening of the meeting.

Foreign Minister TOGO explains the circumstances leading to the settlement of this proposal and the outline of the contents.

Committee Member ISHIZUKA asks a question about the relation between Japan and Germany regarding the South Sea regions. Foreign Minister TOGO replies that Germany has already recognized Japan's construction of a New Order in East Asia, and as for such a problem as how to deal with Dutch East Indies, consultation shall be effected by degrees. MATSUOTO, the Director of the Bureau of Treaties in the Department of Foreign Affairs answers that concerning the South Seas Mandated area, former Foreign Minister MATSUOKA and German Ambassador OTT had exchanged letters to make the islands Japanese territory for a nominal compensation by Japan to Germany.

Committee Member MINAMI asks many questions, namely,

(1) He thinks that Germany's conclusion of the Treaty of Territorial Inviolability with Soviet is an infringement on the spirit of the preamble of the Anti-Comintern Pact and, therefore, the Pact had already lost its validity as far as Germany is concerned. He asks the opinion of the authorities concerned. Foreign Minister TOGO replies that though there is clearly a close connection between the Third International and the Soviet Government, still there exists a slight difference between them, so, it is not impossible to think of them separately, from which viewpoint, Japan has concluded the neutrality treaty with Soviet.

(2) MINAMI asks about the change of circumstances which made the Secret Protocol between Japan and Germany unnecessary. Thinking of the possibility of reconciliation between Germany and Soviet, he doubts if it would be better to continue the Secret Pact.

8. Foreign Minister TOGO responds that the changes in circumstances are (A) the outbreak of war between Germany and Soviet and the conclusion of the Neutrality Pact between Japan and Soviet, (B) Formation of alliance between Japan and Germany. He adds in the case if Germany would make peace with Soviet, Japan would resort to different means, beforehand or at the same time, to protect her interests.

/P. 11 Line 4-10/ Committee Member FUTAKAMI asks about Japan's present foreign relations. Foreign Minister TOGO, after the explanation about the whole circumstances of the Japanese-American negotiations, states that America, after all, sticks to her traditional theory on international policy and assumes an unrealistic attitude which makes it difficult to come to terms; for all this, however, a compromise is being attempted: As for the relation between Japan and Soviet, it is going, at present, on the foundation of the Neutrality Treaty.

/P. 13, line 10/ Committee Member IZAWA asks what are the concrete results of the Anti-Comintern Pact during these five years since it was concluded.

/P.14/ IMAIATSU, the Director of the National Police Bureau in the Department of Home Affairs, answers that by mutual information and connection, changes of the methods of communist' movements or such were learned, and thus, not a few facilities are given by it. Prime Minister TOJO states he will utilize more and more the Anti-Comintern Pact to control communism.

President HARA says it is very doubtful that the Anti-Comintern Pact has been used fully to realize its object, and he hopes now that the Government is going to prolong it, they ought to utilize it completely so as to destroy the Communists at the root.

/15/ After this, Chairman ISHII asks the Ministers and the Explainers to retire.

(Ministers and Explainers go out)

Then after the discussion among the committee members, it is decided unanimously to pass it as it is with request that the Government will make effort to make the Pact effective, positively making the most of its provisions. The drawing of the record of the investigation is committed all to the chairman.

Then Chairman of the Committee ISHII declares the closing of the meeting.

(Closed at 4.20 P.M.)



C E R T I F I C A T E

W. D. C. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
I. P. S. No. 1072

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, M. Takatsuji hereby certify that I am officially connected with the Japanese Government in the following capacity: Secretary of Privy Council and that as such official I have custody of the document hereto attached consisting of 15 pages, dated 21 Nov, 1941, and described as follows: Records of Investigation Committee Meeting of Privy Council re "Prolongation of Anti-Comintern Pact and Abrogation of Secret Protocol". Dated 21 November 1941.

I further certify that the attached record and document is an official document of the Japanese Government, and that it is part of the official archives and files of the following named ministry or department (specifying also the file number or citation, if any, or any other official designation of the regular location of the document in the archives or files): Privy Council, Imperial Palace ground

Signed at Tokyo on this  
17th day of Sept, 1946

/s/ M. Takatsuji  
Signature of Official

SEAL

Witness: /s/ T. Swzuki

\_\_\_\_\_  
Official Capacity

Statement of Official Procurement

I, Edward P. Monaghan, hereby certify that I am associated with the General Headquarters of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, and that the above certification was obtained by me from the above signed official of the Japanese Government in the conduct of my official business.

Signed at Tokyo on this  
17th day of Sept, 1946

/s/ Edward P. Monaghan  
NAME

Witness: s/Eric W. Fleisher 2d Lt.

Investigator, IPS  
Official Capacity